

The Labor logo consists of a red horizontal bar with the word "Labor" in white, sans-serif font. To the right of the bar is a blue square containing four white stars, representing the Australian flag.

MEDIA RELEASE | **WE'LL PUT
PEOPLE FIRST**

**THE HON RICHARD MARLES MP
SHADOW MINISTER FOR DEFENCE
MEMBER FOR CORIO**

F/A-18s TO RETURN HOME

Labor welcomes the Government's announcement that progress in the fight against Daesh means our six F/A-18F Super Hornets, their crews, and support can come home.

While the challenge is not over, we recognise the work done by Australians, our coalition partners and the armed services of Iraq in bringing this moment to pass. Our strike aircraft and their crews played a significant part in bringing the fight against Daesh to this point.

Labor congratulates all our service people contributing in Iraq, and recognises the sacrifice they and their families make, particularly at this time of year.

It is in Australia's national interest to help deny terror groups the ungoverned spaces they need to take root. Labor recognises this is a global effort, and supports the Governments' ongoing assistance to Iraq as a contribution to that effort.

FRIDAY, 22 DECEMBER 2017